



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

AOYAGI et al.

Examiner:

Z. LUCAS.

Serial No.:

09/509,449

Group Art Unit:

1648

Filed:

28 March 2000

Docket No.:

594.352USWO

Title:

METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 1-27-05

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a three-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed July 28, 2004, said period of response being extended from October 28, 2004 to January 28, 2005.

Our check in the amount of \$1,020.00 is enclosed to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.

02/02/2005 HDEMESS1 00000058 09509449

01 FC:1253

1020.00 OP

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

Dated: Januar 27, 2005

By:

Douglas P. Mueller Reg. No. 30,300

DPM:MED:kf